

claims processing requirements to evaluate the systemic differences or similarities employed by the Service and private insurers.

**(c) Report to Congress**

Not later than 12 months after October 29, 1992, the Secretary shall transmit to the Congress a report that includes—

- (1) a detailed description of the study conducted pursuant to this section; and
- (2) a discussion of the findings and conclusions of such study.

(Pub. L. 94-437, title II, § 219, as added Pub. L. 102-573, title II, § 215, Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4557.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Indian Self-Determination Act, referred to in subsec. (a), is title I of Pub. L. 93-638, Jan. 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2206, as amended, which is classified principally to part A (§450f et seq.) of subchapter II of chapter 14 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 450 of this title and Tables.

**§ 1621s. Prompt action on payment of claims**

**(a) Time of response**

The Service shall respond to a notification of a claim by a provider of a contract care service with either an individual purchase order or a denial of the claim within 5 working days after the receipt of such notification.

**(b) Failure to timely respond**

If the Service fails to respond to a notification of a claim in accordance with subsection (a) of this section, the Service shall accept as valid the claim submitted by the provider of a contract care service.

**(c) Time of payment**

The Service shall pay a completed contract care service claim within 30 days after completion of the claim.

(Pub. L. 94-437, title II, § 220, as added Pub. L. 102-573, title II, § 215, Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4558.)

**§ 1621t. Licensing**

Licensed health professionals employed by a tribal health program shall be exempt, if licensed in any State, from the licensing requirements of the State in which the tribal health program performs the services described in the contract or compact of the tribal health program under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.).

(Pub. L. 94-437, title II, § 221, as added Pub. L. 102-573, title II, § 215, Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4559; amended Pub. L. 111-148, title X, § 10221(a), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 935.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 93-638, Jan. 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2203, which is classified principally to subchapter II (§450 et seq.) of chapter 14 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 450 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-148 is based on section 134(a) of title I of S. 1790, One Hundred Eleventh Con-

gress, as reported by the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate in Dec. 2009, which was enacted into law by section 10221(a) of Pub. L. 111-148.

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111-148 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section related to demonstration of electronic claims processing.

**§ 1621u. Liability for payment**

**(a) No patient liability**

A patient who receives contract health care services that are authorized by the Service shall not be liable for the payment of any charges or costs associated with the provision of such services.

**(b) Notification**

The Secretary shall notify a contract care provider and any patient who receives contract health care services authorized by the Service that such patient is not liable for the payment of any charges or costs associated with the provision of such services not later than 5 business days after receipt of a notification of a claim by a provider of contract care services.

**(c) No recourse**

Following receipt of the notice provided under subsection (b), or, if a claim has been deemed accepted under section 1621s(b) of this title, the provider shall have no further recourse against the patient who received the services.

(Pub. L. 94-437, title II, § 222, as added Pub. L. 102-573, title II, § 215, Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4559; amended Pub. L. 111-148, title X, § 10221(a), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 935.)

CODIFICATION

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-148 is based on section 135 of title I of S. 1790, One Hundred Eleventh Congress, as reported by the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate in Dec. 2009, which was enacted into law by section 10221(a) of Pub. L. 111-148.

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111-148 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section related to absence of patient liability for payment of charges or costs for contract health care services and requirement that Secretary notify contract care provider and patient of absence of patient's liability.

**§ 1621v. Offices of Indian Men's Health and Indian Women's Health**

**(a) Office of Indian Men's Health**

**(1) Establishment**

The Secretary may establish within the Service an office, to be known as the "Office of Indian Men's Health".

**(2) Director**

**(A) In general**

The Office of Indian Men's Health shall be headed by a director, to be appointed by the Secretary.

**(B) Duties**

The director shall coordinate and promote the health status of Indian men in the United States.

**(3) Report**

Not later than 2 years after March 23, 2010, the Secretary, acting through the Service, shall submit to Congress a report describing—